



What's New

We are pleased to announce that **Ms. Mary E. Peters** has been sworn in as the 15th Federal Highway Administrator. Ms. Peters was the Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation from 1998 to 2001. In this position, she provided leadership to over 4,800 employees in administering the State's transportation program. While working with the Arizona Department of Transportation, she also served as the Deputy Director of the Department, the Deputy Director for Administration, and the Contract Administrator. She has served as a member of numerous civic organizations and is a graduate of the University of Phoenix.



FHWA, in conjunction with the Roadway Safety Foundation, announced nine recipients of the **2001 National Highway Safety Awards**. A panel of nationally recognized safety leaders reviewed 60 applications from a wide range of public and private sector organizations. FHWA Administrator Mary E. Peters presented the awards to the recipients during a ceremony on November 8 at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

Awards were given in three categories: **Safety Improvements, Operational Improvements, and Program Planning, Development and Evaluation**. Projects were evaluated for their effectiveness, innovation, and efficient use of resources. The winners are...

For Safety Improvements:

Virginia Department of Transportation for Optimal Continuous Shoulder Rumble Strips Project

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for PennDOT Tailgating Treatment Project

Delaware Department of Transportation for Centerline Rumble Strips

For Operational Improvements:

Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska Departments of Transportation for Midwest States Smart Work Zone Deployment Initiative

Alabama Department of Transportation for Fast Track Hazard Elimination Safety Program

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for Road Test of the Road Safety Audit Process

For Program Planning, Development, and Evaluation:

Kentucky State Police for Collision Report Analysis for Safer Highways (CRASH)

Washington Department of Transportation for Intersection Safety Improvement Priority Program

New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, Rutgers University and Advanced Technology Concepts, Inc. for Work Zone Safety for Roadway Maintenance Operations

U.S. Fatality Rate Down for 2000...

...of 1.52 deaths per 100 million miles of travel down from 1.55 in 1999. In 2000: 41,821 people died: run-off-road (15,905), pedestrians (4,739), speed-related (12,350), and intersection (8,632).





The U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) joined a host of other organizations to mark the first annual ***Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day***. A press conference was held on the Capitol steps where a **Memorandum of Understanding** was signed marking October 10, of each year as ***Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day***. Federal Highway Administrator Mary E. Peters and National Highway Traffic Safety Administrator Jeffery W. Runge, M.D. signed on behalf of the U.S. DOT. Also signing, were Dean E. Carlson, President, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; Barbara Harsha, Executive Director, National Association of Governors' Highway Safety Representatives; Larry Emig, National Society of Professional Engineers; William Wilkins, The Road Information Program; Susan Pikrallidas, AAA; and William Fay, Roadway Safety Foundation. The goal of this campaign is to promote public awareness that more than 41,000 people are killed annually on the nation's highway and by focusing on **driver behavior, vehicle safety, and roadway improvements**, we can greatly reduce the number of fatalities.

Safety Exchange receives award - FHWA's Safety Exchange knowledge management system was recognized by the Federation of Government Information Processing Councils with the 2001 Intergovernmental Solutions Award for Outstanding Intergovernmental solutions.

Guidelines and Recommendations To Accommodate Older Drivers and Pedestrians (FHWA-RD-01-051) and ***Highway Design Handbook for Older Drivers and Pedestrians*** (FHWA-RD-01-103) now available. These publications provide practitioners with a condensed source of practical information that links older road user characteristics to highway design, operations, and traffic engineering recommendations by addressing specific roadway features. These documents supplement existing standards and guidelines in the areas of highway geometry, operations, and traffic control devices. The information in these publications should be of interest to highway designers, traffic engineers, and highway safety specialists involved in the design and operation of highway facilities. It will also be of interest to researchers concerned with issues of older road user safety and mobility. To obtain copies of these documents, contact the FHWA Research and Technology Report Center (301) 577-0818, fax: (301) 577-1421, or the National Technical Information Service (703) 487-4650, fax: (703) 321-8547.

Human Factors

Human Factors for Transportation Engineers Workshop: **One-day workshop includes specific discussion of highway standards as they related to driver needs. Human skills and capabilities are discussed and demonstrated and case studies are included (Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409)**

Upcoming Workshops

February 25-28, 2002 North Dakota, Contact Steve Busek (701-250-4348)

Intersection Safety

The FHWA, AASHTO, and ITE are organizing an **Intersection Safety Workshop in Milwaukee, WI, from November 14 to 16, 2001**. The intent of this workshop is to have approximately 150 invited participants from education, enforcement, and engineering disciplines convene and discuss all facets of intersection safety and develop a national agenda and action plan. This is a major initiative of the AASHTO Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety.

Also, as a part of the overall effort to enhance intersection safety awareness, an eight - ten minute video will be prepared prior to the Intersection Safety Workshop. The main purpose of the video is to take a closer look at intersection safety in terms of myths versus realities and to emphasize the importance of individual responsibility in making intersections safer. Contact Hari Kalla (202-366-5915) for more information. **Visit the new intersection safety web site at** <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/intersections.htm>.





Road Safety Audit Training Course is being developed by NHI and will be available in November 2001. Information on the course and scheduling requests should be made through Lynn Cadarr at NHI (703-235-0528).

A series of **safety related pamphlets** is currently under development. These pamphlets are intended to assist the safety community in training and implementing small projects and programs related to or resulting in improved safety on highways, bicycle and pedestrian paths, and highway-rail crossings. They are also intended to assist safety partners in training and demonstrating safety improvements, identifying sources of appropriate materials, and providing core safety technology. The pamphlets can be used by Federal, state, and local agencies to train and develop safety programs for small organizations (National Parks, National Forests, Military Posts, Indian Reservations, State district organizations, and local governments). The first pamphlet, ***Maintenance of Signs and Sign Supports for Local Roads and Streets***, FHWA-SA-01-009, is completed and will be distributed to FHWA field offices and LTAP Centers. The PDF version of the report is posted on the "What's New" page http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/whats_new.htm.

Speed Management

Cooperative Agreements on Speed Setting and Enforcement Projects Awarded: The Connecticut Department of Public Safety, the Mississippi Department of Transportation, and the City of Albuquerque Police Department have been selected to participate in the joint FHWA/NHTSA field operational tests on speed setting and enforcement. These cooperative agreements will evaluate the effectiveness of a "three E's" (engineering, enforcement, education) approach to address the problem of speeding. The jurisdictions will re-evaluate posted speed limits through rigorous engineering studies, strictly enforce revised speed limits, and educate the community and the judiciary on the whys and hows of the program. Evaluation of the effectiveness of the program is a critical element of the agreements. A solicitation for more projects in this area is expected in the spring. (Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409).

Field Operational Tests on Variable Speed Limits In Work Zones Awarded:

Cooperative agreements have been awarded to Maryland, Michigan and Virginia to implement and analyze the effectiveness of variable speed limits (VSL) in work zones. These projects are a joint effort between Safety and ITS. VSL systems rely on input of vehicle speeds and other information to post an appropriate speed limit, allowing motorists to maintain the most efficient and safe speeds, without endangering themselves, other drivers, or workers. Each of the selected states will implement VSL systems in a work zone, monitor operations, and evaluate system effectiveness. This information will then be distributed to all states, so best practices for safe and efficient travel through work zones can be applied. (Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409).

Restoring Credibility to Speed Setting: Engineering, Enforcement & Educational Issues is now available on the FHWA Speed Management Safety Website (safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/speedmgnt.htm). The report summarizes the findings of workshops that brought together critical engineering, enforcement and judiciary personnel to discuss the multi-disciplinary aspects of managing speed. A "planning guide" for others who want to sponsor multi-disciplinary speed management workshops is under development. **If your state is interested in hosting a workshop in FY 2002, please contact Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409.**

Speed Management Exhibit and Handouts Present national data on speeding-related fatalities by road functional class. Handouts examine rural versus urban speeding data, and provide a historical perspective. A new exhibit and "kit" addressing a more integrated "3-Es" approach to speed management is being developed. (Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409)





International News...

Africa Road Safety Review - Under sponsorship of a DOT intermodal international highway safety initiative, the Transportation Research Laboratory (TRL) conducted a research study that investigated the state of road safety in Sub-Saharan Africa. The objective of the study was to analyze existing data and information on the road safety situation in Sub-Saharan Africa in order to identify the data gaps and priority needs. The TRL report entitled **Africa Road Safety Review Final Report** has been published, and copies are available upon request. The report is also available on the international highway safety website at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/fourthlevel/toc.htm>. Contact: Harry Taylor, 202-366-2175 or Shirley Thompson, 202-366-2154

Ongoing Safety Programs...

Review of Highway Safety Improvement Programs - A team consisting of representatives from the Office of Safety (Ken Epstein and Carl Hayden) and the field (Gary Corino and Don Neumann) has completed a review of highway safety improvement programs in six States: Delaware, Oregon, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio and Iowa. The purpose of this review was to determine how the States were carrying out the Highway-Rail Grade Crossings and Hazard Elimination Programs and to identify good practices being carried out. The review was highly successful and a number of good practices were identified. The review team will be preparing a report on its findings and sharing them with the field. (Ken Epstein, 202-366-2157)

Cooperative Agreements on Variable Speed Limits in Work Zones Field Operational Tests **FHWA will be sponsoring field operational test on variable speed limits (VSL) in work zones. A number of 18-month long cooperative agreements to evaluate the utility of VSL systems in work zones are planned.** Award announcements are expected in October (**Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409**)

ROAD SAFETY AUDITS: Is a process wherein a team of independent experts identifies unsafe roadway conditions during project design or on existing roads. See the report of the International Scanning Team <http://www.international.fhwa.dot.gov/pubs.cfm>. Also see <http://www.roadwaysafetyaudits.org>. A training course will be available soon.
(Fred Small 202.366.9212)

RED LIGHT RUNNING: "Synthesis and Evaluation of Red Light Running: Automated Enforcement Programs in the United States" is available at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/stoprlr>.
(Pat Hasson 708.283.3510)

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY: *Pedestrian/Bicyclist Safety Resource Set* CD-ROM (FHWA-SA-00-005) contains information on how to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety in communities across the nation. It includes information on facility design, planning, guidelines, good practices, and tools to aid in countermeasures development. This CD is intended for safety practitioners and other advocates who want to create "walkable/bikeable" communities. The Gold Camera Award-winning "*Safer Journey- Interactive Pedestrian Safety Awareness*" CD-ROM (FHWA-SA-00-009) is an interactive CD that takes the user through various pedestrian safety scenarios. It has been developed to improve the level of pedestrian knowledge for all road users and safety practitioners. <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/pedbike.htm>. Levenson Boodlal 202-366-8044).

GRADE CROSSING SAFETY: The *Railroad Safety Statistics Annual Report* for 1998 is available at <http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/officeofsafety/publication.htm>.

OPERATION LIFESAVERS expands web site, plans new safety campaign <http://www.oli.org>
(Fred Small 202-366.9212).





CRASHWORTHINESS OF ROADSIDE SAFETY HARDWARE: Since October 1, 1998, virtually all roadside hardware installed on the National Highway System must meet the crash evaluation criteria identified in NCHRP Report 350. The compliance date for transitions to bridge railings and for precast concrete barriers was extended to October 1, 2002. See <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/roadsidehardware.htm>.

This site provides information on accepted devices and related FHWA policies. (Richard Powers 202.366.1320 Permanent and Temporary Barriers, Terminals, Bridge Railings/Transitions, and Crash Cushions) (Nicholas Artimovich 202.366.1331, Work Zone Devices, Sign Supports, and Poles).

SEAT BELT SAFETY: The FHWA supports the Buckle Up America campaign for increasing seat belt use nationwide. This campaign focuses on building public-private partnerships, enacting strong legislation, maintaining active, high-visibility law enforcement and conducting effective public education. (Shirley Thompson 202.366.2154) <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/airbags/buckleplan>

NATIONAL WORK ZONE SAFETY INFORMATION CLEARING HOUSE: The Clearinghouse provides a single contact for information and technical assistance concerning the safe and effective operation of work zones. Clearinghouse: 888.447.5556 Fax: 409.845.0568. <http://wzsafety.tamu.edu>. (Ann Walls 202.366.6836).

WORK ZONE SAFETY: Transportation agencies have identified their best practices/policies for minimizing delay and enhancing safety during construction and maintenance operations. See Report at <http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/bestprac.htm>.

WORK ZONE SAFETY NETWORK: More than 30 highway and safety organizations are working together to improve driver awareness of the hazards encountered when driving through work zones. See <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov> for more information. (Michael Robinson 202-366-2193).

MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES (MUTCD): The MUTCD contains standards and guidance for the design and use of signs, pavement markings, and traffic signals. The millennium edition of the MUTCD was published in December 2000. The entire manual is available at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov>. (Ernie Huckaby 202.366.9064)

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (ITS): The FHWA, Safety Core Business Unit (CBU) is involved in many aspects of ITS development, including Field Operational Tests. Major Safety CBU efforts currently include Variable Speed Limits, Pedestrian ITS, ITS Archived Data User Service (ADUS), Highway-Rail Crossing ITS, Intelligent Vehicle Initiative (IVI) cooperative and independent infrastructure ITS, and ITS Safety Program Assessments and Resources. (Larry J. Brown, 202.366.2214)

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (TSIMS): The FHWA and NHTSA are working with AASHTO to develop a software package for safety information management systems. The system design and a prototype will be completed by mid 2001. The system will take advantage of existing analysis and data capture systems and will facilitate safety analysis data by linking different safety-related data. (Carl Hayden 202.366.2176)

IOWA NATIONAL MODEL: Iowa has created a model public safety information system for data collection and management.

A software package has been developed for free distribution to public agencies that wish to upgrade existing and new data collection forms. <http://dot.state.ia.us/natmodel> (David Smith 202.366.6614)

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE (IACP) CLEARINGHOUSE: The clearinghouse provides agency managers with information on automation projects to help them make more informed decisions





on what technology to purchase and use for the collection and distribution of traffic crash data.
<http://www.iacptechnology.org> (David Smith 202.366.6614)

SAFETY PERFORMANCE OF RURAL TWO-LANE HIGHWAYS

A report titled ***Prediction of the Expected Safety Performance of Rural Two-Lane Highways*** that documents the algorithm for predicting the safety performance of rural two-lane highways is now available. The algorithm estimates the effect on safety performance of roadway segment parameters including lane width, shoulder width, shoulder type, horizontal curves, grades, driveway density, two-way left-turn lanes, passing lanes, and roadside design, and of intersection parameters including skew angle, traffic control, exclusive left- and right-turn lanes, sight distance, and driveways. The algorithm enables highway agencies to estimate the safety performance of existing or proposed highways and to compare the safety performance of geometric design alternatives.

The algorithm forms the basis for the Crash Prediction Module of the Interactive Highway Safety Design Model (IHSDM). The software for the Crash Prediction Module is currently under development. Beta testing of the software will begin in early 2002. Please contact Michael Griffith at mike.griffith@fhwa.dot.gov or (202) 493-3316 to obtain a copy of the report. A PDF version of the report can be obtained at <http://www.tfhr.gov/safety/99207.htm>. For general information about IHSDM, please contact Ray Krammes at ray.krammes@fhwa.dot.gov or (202) 493-3312.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS		
Dates	Location	Event
November 4 – 7	Dallas TX	National Highway – Rail Grade Crossing Safety Conference
November 14 – 16	Milwaukee WI	Intersection Safety Workshop
November 26 – 28	Hilton Hawaiian Village	Hawaii Traffic Safety Forum
December 2 – 3	Ft. Worth TX	AASHTO Annual Meeting
January 13-17, 2002	Washington, DC	81 st TRB Annual Meeting
February 8-12, 2002	Dallas, TX	American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) 32 nd Annual Convention and Traffic Expo
February 20-21, 2002	Melbourne, Australia	7 th International Symposium on Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings
March 24-28, 2002	San Diego, CA	National Association of County Engineers (NACE) Annual Meeting and Management and Technical Conference





Resources

SPEED MANAGEMENT EXHIBIT AND HANDOUTS present national data on speeding-related fatalities by road functional class. Handouts examine rural versus urban speeding data and provide a historical perspective. (Beth Alicandri 202.366.6409)

SAFETY MANAGEMENT SELF-ASSESSMENT: This is a tool to enable States to evaluate their safety management processes. This self-assessment combines previous guidance on safety management with the seven quality principles of the Malcolm Baldrige National Award criteria. (Ken Epstein 202.366.2157)

OLDER DRIVER HIGHWAY DESIGN: The Design Handbook and workshops are now available. (Dave Smith 202.366.6614)

Child Safety Website provides a list of new child restraints and features; new vehicles and child safety features; tips for installing and using child safety restraints; and child seat help (fitting/inspection stations and technician contacts). <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/childps/>

ROAD USER GUIDE helps drivers understand the traffic control devices and regulations in Canada, Mexico, and the US. Differences and similarities are depicted. (Ernie Huckaby 202.366.9064)

THE MODEL MINIMUM UNIFORM CRASH CRITERIA (MMUCC) is cited in TEA-21 as one of the factors to be considered in applications for safety improvement grants. While it is voluntary, the States are encouraged to use it when revising and updating their traffic crash reports. <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov> (People Safety/Crash Information/ MMUCC). Hard copies are available. (Carl Hayden 202.366.2176)

READ YOUR ROAD BROCHURE: A digitized camera-ready copy is available. The FHWA is seeking partners to assist in printing and distributing. The content of Read Your Road is available at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/media/ryr.htm> (Ann Walls 202.366.6836)

MOVING SAFELY ACROSS AMERICA CD is designed for the general public. Users can interact with and experience various aspects of highway safety, and test their understanding of these topics. (Ann Walls 202.366.6836) now on the web at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov>.

Apple iMAC Moving Safely Across America Kiosk, tabletop display, and locker magnets available for outreach activities by contacting FHWA Resource Centers. Contacts are: Eastern RC, Dean Larsen, 410-962-2372; Midwestern RC, Pat Hasson, 708-283-3595; Southern RC, Frank Julian, 404-562-3689; and Western RC, Keith Harrison, 415-744-2657.

SPANISH VERSIONS OF EVERYONE IS A PEDESTRIAN BROCHURES teach pedestrians how to navigate through work zones, understand pedestrian signs and signals, and how to navigate around large trucks. Pedestrian Safety Exhibit & Information Center. <http://www.bicyclinginfo.org> and <http://www.walkinginfo.org> (Tamara Broyhill 202.366.4077).

AASHTO HIGHWAY SAFETY DESIGN AND OPERATIONS GUIDE (The "Yellow Book") serves as a primary tool to identify potential safety problems and describes ways to eliminate safety problems or reducing crash severity. <http://www.aashto.org>. (Carl Hayden 202.366.2176)





Resources (continued)

AASHTO STRATEGIC SAFETY PLAN The goal of this comprehensive plan is to substantially reduce vehicle-related fatalities and injuries on our Nation's highways. The plan includes the traditional AASHTO concerns for "infrastructure" as well as the driver, occupant, vehicle, and post-crash responsibilities. <http://www.aashto.org>. (Rudy Umbs 202.366.2177)

NIGHT LIGHTS VIDEO takes a non-technical look at how retroreflectivity saves lives. A variety of situations and conditions are presented through the eyes of different motorists: teens, soccer moms, and older drivers. (Peter Hatzi 202-366-8036)

Office of Highway Safety

Goal: To continually improve highway safety by reducing the number (20 percent in ten years) of highway fatalities and injuries including large trucks (50 percent in ten years). Ensuring safe travel on highways is a guiding principle throughout the FHWA.

Focus: High-risk areas through technical assistance, research, training, data analysis, and public information as well as through compliance and education. The FHWA is working with safety partners to heighten safety awareness within the highway community, business, industry, and the Public.

Top Priorities: Run-off-road crashes, Pedestrians, Speed Management, and Intersections.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, see TEA-21 Key Information fact sheets

To Order FHWA Publications, please contact the FHWA Report Center

Phone: 301.577.0818 / Fax: 301.577.1421, FHWA Safety Office: 202.366.2288

